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Jane Henney
FDA Commissioner
5600 Fishers Lane, Room 14-71
Rockville, MD 20857

May 10th, 1999

Dear Ms. Henney,

I am writing in reference to Docket 999P-0033/CP 1, a petition to end the practice of feeding dead animals to farm animals. Currently, the US allows the dangerous practice of feeding pigs to pigs and cattle blood to calves, despite evidence that mad cow type diseases may be a risk. Cruetzfeldt-Jacob disease (CJD), a variant of this (nvCJD) are human diseases caused by the same agent which drives spogiform encephalopathy (BSE). To date 33 people have died from nvCJD but the frightening issue is the untold number of people and animals carrying these diseases since they cannot be detected at early stages like AIDS.

I am also extremely concerned for the mammal meat making up pet foods. Blood and blood products must be prohibited in animal feed and pet food. Gelatin should also be eliminated, as it may also carry infectious agents. All porcine products must be disallowed in animal feed and pet food, as pigs are very susceptible to transmissible spogiform encephalopathies and have already exhibited symptoms in the US. TSE-positive material must definitely NOT be used in fertilizer, cosmetics, or any food meant for animals.

Please act on the Humane Farming Association's petition to stop this highly dangerous practice. Cows and pigs are vegetarians and should be fed accordingly. Our companion animals have a right to a safe supply of protein and should not be fed toxic garbage that farmers have created to reduce their costs. It is clear in the 33 deaths that we cannot treat animals in a way that does not affect humans.

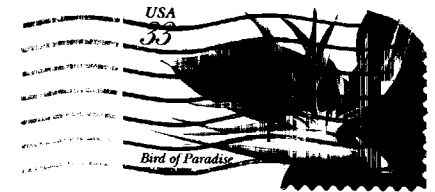


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